GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:87
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2001
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the UNESCO Reportfor the year 2000 revealing that 72 million children between the age of 5 and 14 are deprived of the basic education in the country;

(b) if so, whether any recent survey has been made with regard to the estimated number of children between the age group of 5 and 14 years, both in the urban and rural areas in the country lacking schooling facilities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the changes, if any, contemplated by the Government in the programmes to achieve the objectives of providing basic education to the children in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) : The UNESCO World Education Report 2000states that there are 100 million primary school age children in the world who are not in school.

(b) & (c) : The recent National FamilyHealth Survey, based on a sample of 90,000 households in 1998-99, states that 79% children in the 6-14 age group are attending school. The figure in a similar survey in 1992-93 was 68%.

(d) : The Government has recently approved the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan which is the first national programme for Universal Elementary Education. It provides for all 6-14 age children in schools/EGS/Back toschool campus by 2003, five years of primary schooling by 2007 and eight years of elementary schooling for all by 2010.